Commonwealth Center for Children & Adolescents Staunton VA

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

03/30/2010

The March 16, 2010 meeting was rescheduled for 03/30/2010.

Present:

Wendy Young, Chair

Jim Strock, Secretary

Joe Tuell, CCCA Facility Director

JoAnn Shoemaker, Affiliate: Family Pres. Sves.

Greg Czyszczon, Affiliate: Crossroads Counseling

Laura Ogden, Affiliate: Specialized Youth Sves Oliver Agee, Affiliate: NCG, Inc., Staunton Don Roe, Ph.D., CCCA Assist. Director

Jenny Heilborn, VOPA

Susan Richardson, Member

Mark Seymour, DBHDS/Advocate

Pam White, CCCA LHRC Liaison Trey Lawhorne, Affiliate: Intercept Youth Svcs.

Nancy Armstrong, Affiliate: VSDB

Doris Moore, Affiliate: People Places-Charlottesville

Jim Rankin, Affiliate: NCG, Inc., Staunton

Mark Stevens, VOPA

Absent:

Paul Krikau, Vice Chair

Minutes Prepared by: Pamela White, CCCA Liaison

CURRENT AGENDA	FUTURE AGENDA
Call to Order; Review of Minutes	Call to Order; Review of Minutes
2. General: Affiliated Programs	2. General: Affiliated Programs
3. Advocate's Report	3. Advocate's Report
4. CCCA Facility Director's Report	CCCA Facility Director's Report
5. Adjourn	 The next regular CCCA LHRC meeting has been scheduled for 05/18/10@ 6:00pm.

1. Wendy Young-Chair called the meeting to order with round table introductions of all present and a review of the CCCA LHRC minutes of 02/16/2010.

Action: The motion was made and seconded that the CCCA LHRC minutes of 02/16/2010 be approved as amended; the motion passed unanimously.

2. Annual Reports from the affiliated programs presented:

- a. JoAnn Shocmaker-Affiliate: Family Preservation Services presented the program's Annual Report, citing a steady growth in services. Ms. Shoemaker reported that new staff are trained in human rights during their 2-week orientation period. She addressed general questions in addition to her written report and stated that regarding physical interventions, staff are never to put "hands on" without proper training in crisis intervention techniques and only when there is an immediate risk of harm to self or others.
- b. Nancy Armstrong, Ph.D.-Affiliate: VSDB presented the program's Annual Report, commenting that the school is not a treatment center but rather a school focused on learning under the umbrella of residential services and reported that children go home on Friday for the weekend. She highlighted activities since the change in licensing regulations necessitating human rights compliance. Dr. Armstrong responded to general questions and provided a VSDB brochure for informational purposes.

Action: The CCCA LHRC accepted the 2010 Annual Reports from affiliated programs Family Preservation Services and VSDB.

General Information from the affiliated programs in attendance:

- a. Oliver Agee-Affiliate: National Counseling Group, Inc./Harrisonburg-Staunton announced that he would be moving to the corporate office and introduced Jim Rankin as the new NCG Site Director for the Staunton-based program.
- b. Laura Ogden-Affiliate: Specialized Youth Services-Harrisonburg announced that Terry Shull was the new Director for Shenandoah Academy.
- c. Trey Lawhorne-Affiliate: Intercept/Shenandoah House commented that environmental improvements were on-going.

Action: The CCCA LHRC thanked the affiliated programs in attendance for their updates.

- 3. Mark Seymour-DBHDS/Advocate presented his Advocate's Report, expressing appreciation for the ongoing open communication and the various adaptations of mental health program services to the various changes that have been necessary due to budget cuts, reassignments, and organizational realignments. He noted that much would depend on the Governor's budgetary actions, expected sometime mid-April.
- 4. Joe Tuell-Facility Director presented the Facility Director's Report, stating plans were on-going for CCCA to return operations to its original site soon. Mr. Tuell commented that in anticipation of the closure of Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute's Adolescent Unit by June 30th, CCCA needed to be fully operational to accept those adolescents as well. He added that the Center typically experiences an increase in patient admissions in the Spring and that indications are the trend will continue.

Don Roe, Ph.D.-Assistant Director was available for questions and input regarding the Center's draft Center Instruction 2411Seclusion & Restraint Policy that was presented at the previous meeting. He added that the Center had been able to make several environmental changes at the original site to offer sensory calming through grant funding and it would be exciting to implement these items when Center operations resumed. Several editorial changes were suggested and are to be incorporated into the final policy.

Action: A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the policy as amended; the motion passed unanimously.

 Ms. Young-CCCA LHRC Chair commented that her LHRC term was expiring June 30, 2010 and emphasized the importance of committee service.

Action: Any individuals interested in CCCA LHRC membership may contact Ms. Young or Pam White-CCCA LHRC Liaison for information. Having no further business, the motion to adjourn was made and properly seconded; the motion passed unanimously. The next scheduled meeting will be held Tucsday-May 18, 2010 at 6:00pm.